

## REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

### **I. The Status of All Claims**

Claims 24-31; 36-43; and 48-51 are pending in the application. Claims 24-31; 36-43; and 48-51 stand rejected. Claims 24, 28, 36, 40, 48, 49, 50, and 51 are the only independent claims.

### **II. The Rejections of Claims 50 and 51 Due to Informalities**

#### **A. Objections to Claims 50 and 51**

##### **1. The Examiner's Argument**

In objecting to the informalities in claims 50 and 51, the examiner stated that:

Claims 50 and 51 are objected to because of the following informalities: in the 3<sup>rd</sup> line of both claims, after "from the", the letter "a" is included and should be omitted for grammatical purposes. Appropriate correction is required.

[Office action mailed April 6, 2004 page 2 lines 11-13.]

##### **2. The Applicants' Response**

In reply, the applicants amend claim 50 by changing "the a consumer" to "a consumer". The applicants amend claim 51 by changing "the a consumer" to "a consumer". The applicants amend the typographical error in claim 51 by changing "mean" to "means".

No new matter has been added.

### **III. Closure**

Should the examiner have any questions, the examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at 703-415-0012.

7/2/04  
Date

**31518**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard A. Neifeld, Ph.D.

Registration No. 35,299

Attorney of Record

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